



United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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### **Media Advisory**

#### **U.S. District Court, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Office of the Illinois Secretary of State Host 97 Citizenship Candidates for Special Naturalization Ceremony in Celebration of National Citizenship and Constitution Day**

Chicago, Ill.- On September 19, 2023, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the Office of the Illinois Secretary of State hosted a special Constitution Day naturalization ceremony in the Ceremonial Courtroom at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse. Ninety-seven candidates from 37 countries were sworn in as U.S. citizens.

“As we celebrate the signing of the Constitution, we extend a heartfelt welcome to our newest American citizens. Our wish is that they will achieve success and happiness in their new home and will help our nation live up to the ideals enshrined in the Constitution,” said Chief Rebecca R. Judge Pallmeyer.

Judge Pallmeyer administered the Oath of Allegiance to the new citizens. Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias and Kevin Riddle, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Field Office Director, welcomed the new citizens.

The ceremony included a presentation of colors by the Lincoln Park High School Color Guard and music by the Lincoln Park High School Band. The band later played a musical finale in the courthouse lobby.

Constitution Day (or Citizenship Day), is an American federal observance that recognizes the adoption of the United States Constitution and those who have become U.S. citizens.

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Photos courtesy of U.S.C.I.S.